2016-2017 EMHSeed Questions and Feedback

Q: My PI will be submitting a proposal for the upcoming funding opportunity, may I please request what information is required to be in the letters of support?
A: Indication of $15k/year cash contribution from the PI's institute/department

Q: Can a PI be involved in more than one proposal? For example, a medical researcher may want to collaborate with 2 separate engineering faculty that tackle complementary aspects of a central problem. Or an engineering researcher may have a technology that could solve 2 different medical questions.
A: An engineering researcher is permitted to be involved in more than one proposal. It is not the best strategy, but there are no formal exclusions.

Q: Other than the 2 page proposal + attachments (departmental support letters), do we also need to attach CVs (i.e., Canadian Common CVs) to address the point about "excellence in research"?
A: Yes, this will be required.

Q: I know the proposals are limited to 2-pages. I just want to confirm the attachments.
A: By the deadline, the Adjudication Committee will receive some number of proposals that each include:
   o The proposal
   o The two letters of support
   o The two CVs
The Adjudication Ctee will then meet, and will choose a small number of proposals (we estimate six based on available budget) that it believes are the very strongest and most impactful.

When we write "I understand that the two Faculties have already made the necessary commitments" we mean: FASE and FoM have committed the cash already to fund some small number of carefully-selected proposals that the Ctee judges to be of exceptional quality and to meet all criteria outlined in the Call for Proposals.

Q: We have formed a team and will submit an application. Does it matter whether the application is officially submitted by the medicine side or the engineering side? Also, do we need to submit an MRA form for this?
A: It doesn't matter what side you submit the application and you do not require an MRA submission (formerly the blue form).

Q: Is it possible for us to submit an application with all 3 co-PIs (from a mix of engineering and medicine) as each brings a unique expertise necessary for the project? Second, I am wondering about the requirements for PI CVs for these funds. Do the CVs have to be in CCV format if the PIs have not applied yet for CCV or NSERC funds? They are early in their research careers, but are eligible for those grants.
A: You can have a 3-coPI proposal. We expect most to be 2-coPI in light of limited funds, but 3 coPIs is allowed. CCVs and NSERC 100s are preferred, but we are willing to receive Cvs in other forms.

Q: Will we need to submit letters of support from each source of matched funding? Also, how exact are the amounts of funds committed by the different faculties/institutes? We have just heard back from the DOM that they are only committing 7.5k/year for 2 years for all applicants. Can we seek matching funds elsewhere?

A: Yes, you need letters from each source. We won't refuse to look at applications that don't have the full $15k/year cash match; but they will be much weaker. Yes, we are open to <u>cash</u> contributions from other sources, such as other supporting departments, philanthropic $, etc.

Q: Do we need to submit all 4 letters of commitment from the Chairs and Deans? Or do the 2 letters from the Deans just come after the adjudication process?
A: You need to submit 2 letters: One from Engineering Department and one from Medicine/Hospital Department/Institute. Each of these should commit $15k/year. The adjudication proposal that reviews proposals (including letters of commitments from depts., mentioned above) will determine which of the proposals it wishes to provide Faculty-level support to.

Q: Is a detailed budget part of the 2-page proposal submission?
A: You can include a budget in the 2 pages; it will not take much space since it is necessarily rather simple: "EMHSeed will prioritize the use of funds to support typically two collaborating graduate students, one earning a graduate degree in an Engineering unit, the other in a Medicine/Hospital unit. The graduate students will join together on a project at the engineering-health sciences interface. They will be jointly advised by the coPIs and will work on an important problem whose solution will unlock a large new partnership or innovation opportunity."

Q: Can the references go outside the two pages, or can they be appended after the two pages?
A: You can append, it is fine.

Q: For CVs is an NIH biosketch (their shortened CV template) acceptable or is CCV/NSERC format required? The call doesn't mention if CCV, what sections should be included?
A: It does ask for a CCV or an NSERC 100. But an NIH biosketch is fine